

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, SGEN, OAS, CI

SUBJECT: CHILE AND INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

FOLLOWING IS OAS PRESS RELEASE RECEIVED OCTOBER 4:

QUOTE. OCTOBER 2, 1973 -- NEW CHILEAN GOVERNMENT PROMISES TO RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS -- WASHINGTON, D.C. -- "THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE FAITHFULLY TO FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS DERIVED FROM INTER-AMERICAN AGREEMENTS CONCERNING RESPECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS," SAYS THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF CHILE, REAR ADMIRAL ISMAEL HUERTA DIAZ, IN A MESSAGE TO THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS) HERE.

THE MESSAGE, RELEASED TODAY, WAS IN REPLY TO CABLES SENT TO THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT BY JUSTINO JIMENEZ DE ARECHAGA, CHAIRMAN, AND LUIS REQUE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, WHO EXPRESSED THE COMMISSION'S CONCERN OVER "COMMUNICATIONS IT HAS RECEIVED IN WHICH GREAT FEAR IS EXPRESSED" THAT THE

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CHILEAN GOVERNMENT "MAY APPLY IMMINENT AND SEVERE

REPRESSIVE MEASURES TO MEMBERS OF OPPOSITION AND POLITICAL
REFUGEES..."

THE CHILEAN FOREIGN MINISTER ADDED IN HIS REPLY THAT "THE
INDIVIDUALS PRESENTLY DETAINED, WHO ARE RECEIVING HUMANE
TREATMENT, WILL BE SENTENCED ONLY AFTER TRIAL, IF THEY
ARE IMPLICATED IN CRIMINAL ACTS."

THE COMMISSION HAD REQUESTED IN ONE CABLE THAT THE
CHILEAN GOVERNMENT "SUBMIT INFORMATION ON THE MEASURES
THAT IT ADOPTS IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS DURING THE
PRESENT SITUATION," AND IN ANOTHER COMMUNICATION HAD
ASKED AUTHORIZATION FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE
COMMISSION TO VISIT CHILE TO GATHER INFORMATION ON THE
SITUATION REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS.

THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT HAS NOT REPLIED TO THESE REQUESTS.

THE SEVEN-MEMBER COMMISSION HAS ITS OFFICES IN
WASHINGTON, D.C. ITS MAIN OBJECTIVE IS TO "KEEP VIGILANCE
OVER THE OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS" IN THE MEMBER STATES
OF THE OAS. END QUOTE. -

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